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Stout Named to State Committee

By Jed Reitman

California Chief Justice Ronald George, chair of the state's Judicial Council, recently appointed Inyo County Superior Court Judge Dean T. Stout to serve on the Judicial Council's Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee.

Judge Stout was one of nine statewide appointees to the influential committee.

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The committee makes recommendations for improving the administration of justice in cases involving children and families, and individuals in domestic violence cases. The committee also administers grants for programs and projects involving court appointed special advocates, child support commissioners and family law facilitators.

Additionally, the committee identifies issues and concerns affecting court administration, necessary changes to rules, reviews and recommends legislation, and recommends pilot projects to evaluate new procedures or practices.

Judge Stout will be a presenter and moderator on "Collaborative Juvenile Justice: the Courts, Probation and Youth Authority" at the California Juvenile Court Centennial Conference, to be held in Los Angeles Dec. 4-6.

Judge Stout said he specialized in juvenile and family law, and has a particular concern in making a difference in the lives of families, particularly children.

"I believe in applying as many resources as possible to the front-end of this issue, to proactively prevent abuse and violence," Judge Stout said.

For example, Stout said the recent Domestic Violence Symposium, sponsored by the Inyo County Domestic Violence Council, is a good way to avoid the patterns of violence before they begin.

Judge Stout also said the Inyo First Five program is another good example of promoting healthy families and youth.

Judge Stout said he hopes his new appointment can be a "win-win" situation for Inyo County by contributing the Inyo County philosophy to the state, and also bringing back new ideas.

I am honored to be a part of the council, and I hope to bring back some benefits to Inyo County, as well as contributing on a statewide basis," Judge Stout said.

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